MICHAEL R. TURNER

TENTH DISTRICT, OHIO

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

CHAIRMAN
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
TACTICAL AIR AND LAND FORCES

PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

ASSISTANT MAJORITY WHIP



Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, **DC** 20515 August 21, 2020 2368 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515 (202) 225-6465

DISTRICT OFFICE:

120 WEST 3RD STREET SUITE 305 DAYTON, OH 45402 (937) 225–2843

Rt. Hon. Ben Wallace, MP Secretary of State Ministry of Defence Floor 5, Zone D, Main Building Whitehall London SWIA 2HB

Dear Rt. Hon. Wallace:

I would like to extend my gratitude for our united efforts toward making certain the success of the W93 U.S. Navy warhead program, for which both of our nations are relying to ensure we retain a strong, safe, and reliable nuclear deterrent capability well into the future. I am pleased to report the program was fully funded in both the House and Senate passed versions of the Fiscal Year 2021 National Defense Authorization Act and I will continue to advocate to ensure final appropriations for the W93.

I am also writing with regard to an issue that warrants equal concern: the failed United Nations Resolution offered by the U.S. to extend the arms embargo on Iran.

As you know, our resolution to extend indefinitely the thirteen-year prohibition on Iran's purchase or sale of conventional weapons was rejected by the U.N. Security Council last week. Absent renewed effort to continue these restrictions, we have every reason to believe the Iranian regime, the world's largest exporter of state-sponsored terrorism, will continue to sew discord in the Middle East. One need look no further than Iran's provocative unveiling of two new missiles just this week to understand their desire to threaten our nations and our allies, tilt the balance of power in the Middle East, and sell these and other weapons to other bad actors across the globe. With this action, I believe the UN security council failed in its primary responsibility to maintain international peace and security. As you are aware, the UK abstained from the vote in support of the resolution.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) reported that Iran is in violation of the terms of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, to which the U.K. remains a party. In response to such violations, not only should the arms embargo be extended, but the Security Council must render Iran unable to advance its nuclear program any further. The current course of action confuses our unified nuclear alliance and complicates our policy of deterrence. Therefore, I urge the United Kingdom to join us in extending this arms embargo on Iran.

I remain committed to our partnership on these and other matters of mutual interest and if I can do anything further to support these discussions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Michael A June

Michael R. Turner Member of Congress